

Commissioner Powell:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal to weaken ownership regulations for different media types (e.g., newspaper and television) in the same area.

As it stands, there is significant reduction in the number of different media conglomerates in the United States. For example, what is the likelihood of ABC reporting on environmental issues at Disneyworld? NBC reporting on environmental problems from Westinghouse nuclear reactors? CBS reporting on General Electric defense fraud? Sometimes the only way that the American people can find out about these types of issues is through non-network controlled media, which I do not believe will exist for long given the relaxation of rules that you are proposing.

As the free exchange of ideas requires different sources, I would urge you to either leave in place or strengthen rules prohibiting

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